	Question	Response	Question Number
Administration	What information do I need that will enable me to support programs statewide when it comes to this information?	The Division is committed to serving as a resource and can be contacted with specific questions. The Division is developing several resources including but not limited to: model language for employer handbooks, maintaining an FAQ document on the FAMLI website, and creating regular topical guidance documents to help employers both understand program compliance and to give you a seat at the table as policies are being developed through the public rulemaking process. We know we will need your partnership and feedback to implement the FAMLI program in the most equitable way possible. Throughout the technology build, we anticipate being able to test the functionality of each step of the system with a broad set of users, and we are recruiting employers like yourselves to join us as we continue to design the system with your needs at top of mind. We are following a similar process throughout policy development, where we invite feedback from stakeholders and check our assumptions throughout the process as we develop the business rules for the program, and we invite you and are asking for your feedback and partnership as we implement the ballot measure.	7
Administration	Please provide information on how to use an existing PTO policy to cover FAMLI leave.	The FAMLI benefit provides only PARTIAL wage replacement for a worker on leave. With the expressed written permission from an employee a business is able to "top off" or "make whole" the wages of an employee while they are on FAMLI leave if the business chooses to offer this as an additional benefit to their employee. However the law prohibits an employer from requiring an employee to use or exhaust existing PTO before they are permitted to take FAMLI leave.	14
Administration	Can you speak to how this new program relates to the new law HFWA.	The Division will be issuing guidance on the nexus and differences between the two laws. HFWA is internally managed by employers and consists of earned paid time off accrued by employees. The employees are paid for their time away at their regular rate of pay by their employer. This is paid time off for sick days. For life circumstances that may require long absences from work such as serious health conditions, welcoming a new child, etc. employees may apply to the FAMLI program for a benefit paid to the employee from the State. The amount if the benefit is only a percentage of their regular rate of pay and is paid directly to the employee from the State.	16
Administration	Will we be notified when an employee has applied for this?	Yes. Employers will be notified when an employee requests benefits/FAMLI leave.	20
Administration	We are a seasonal employer (less than 180 days). How does the benefit follow the employee when they don't qualify for FMLA?	Colorado employees do not need to qualify for the (federal program) FMLA, as the eligibility for the state FAMLI program is not predicated on length of time worked, or a formal waiting period. Once an employee has made \$2,500 in wages, they may become eligible for the FAMLI benefit.	24
Administration	When does this go into effect?	Premium payments go live 1/1/23 and benefits can be applied for on 1/1/24	25
Administration	Will there be COB with STD benefits?	Yes, the employers or their proxy, or an employee and/or their proxy may coordinate benefits between the FAMLI program and short term disability policies. The rules and details concerning coordination of benefits will be written before benefits begin in 2024.	35
Administration	Can you take this leave intermittently?	Yes	37
Administration	Do I understand correctly that this is for leave of absence, not intermittent time off, even though the intermittent time off is certified under FMLA?	This can be used for intermittent time off.	38
Administration	Can an employer (or the state) place any restrictions on claiming the insurance and job retention. For example, require vaccination against C-19. Also, can this be used to cover CO the required additional pandemic paid leave of 80 hrs/year?	No. The decision to take a FAMLI leave is a decision made by the employee and their health care provider or with documented need of family violence leave. The benefit does not begin until 2024. The Division has not included specific rules related to Covid 19 at this time.	41
Administration	Is this optional for the employee/employer?	This is required for most Colorado employees and employers with the few notable exceptions of self employed individuals, local government employers and their employees if their workplace opts out of coverage, and federal employees. Everyone else including domestic workers, clergy, nonprofit organizations etc, will be required to comply with the premium payments and could be eligible to apply for benefits.	42
Administration	If the tracking of this is at the Government level, does the employee "apply" to the Government for the time off (like UI?) or does the employer have the burden of the paperwork and submission to the centralized system? If so, can you confirm how the system will work to submit, etc. Eg. The government approves the leave, etc like UI, etc?	Yes. Similar to UI, an employee will apply to the FAMLI Program for benefits. The program will determine eligibility based on submitted documentation and then issue payment directly to the employee.	44
Administration	How does an employee apply to use FAMLI. Would this be similar to how an employee applies for unemployment?	An employee will be able to apply to use FAMLI by either calling in a claim or opening a claim via our online portal. These systems will be implemented prior to the 1/1/2024 go-live date.	48
Administration	How do individuals apply for benefits? Through the employer? Or, directly through the FAMILI program?	Workers will apply for benefits through the FAMLI program.	57
Administration	You mentioned this was not concurrent with the State ordered family paid sick leave, but if an employee accesses the Paid sick leave which only allows 48 hours but they need more time off can they access FAMLI after receiving the 48 hours pay?	Yes. The earned paid sick days can be taken anytime, and that is not managed by the FAMLI program in any capacity. The FAMLI leave program is separate and requires documentation of the need for leave, and an application to the program, and an eligibility determination,	58
Administration	Will we receive a list of what illness either physical or mental are covered by this?	A serious health condition is defined as illness, injury, impairment, pregnancy, recovery from childbirth, or physical or mental condition that involves inpatient care in a hospital, hospice or residential care facility, or continuing treatment by a healthcare provider.	60
Administration	What did you say about requiring to hold a position for someone?	After an employee has worked at your business for 180 days their leave through the FAMLI program is a "job protected" leave similar to the federal FMLA.	65
Administration	Does HFWA allotted/accrued leave time restart on January 1 each year? Curious so we know as employers how this plays in PFMLA.	In progress - visit famili.colorado.gov for more.	67
Administration	How does this address the 130 hours a month or 32 hours a week that must be worked in order to keep health insurance?	In progress - visit famili.colorado.gov for more.	69
Administration	Will the wages be taxable?	Wages will remain taxable in Colorado. The premiums and benefit payments are exempt from state taxes. The federal IRS has yet to issue guidance regarding federal tax treatment of premiums and benefits from state PFML programs. We anticipate the Division will be able to issue 1099 tax forms.	74
Administration	Can we cancel employee's health insurance if they do not pay their premiums like during FMLA leave?	In progress - visit famili.colorado.gov for more.	76
Administration	How much has the state budgeted for administration?	In progress - visit famli.colorado.gov for more.	78
Administration	If the employee submits to FAMLI, then can you confirm that FAMLI does all the paperwork on this or does the employer need to complete paperwork as well and have systems in place in order to do so (or will be get a FAMLI account similar to UI?)	Employers will be notified when an employee applies for FAMLI benefits, and be given the opportunity to provide information to the Division.	79
Administration	Are the 180 required to be consecutive? Or if they work for 90 days, quit, then come back and work another 91 days, would they be job protected?	In progress - visit famili.colorado.gov for more.	81

Response	Question Number
age of the employee and includes both seasonal employees and people who work of to establish eligibility is four quarters with an alternate 5th and the wage amount high school student works at one place during the summer, somewhere else at the 0 to meet the benefit eligibility requirement.	82
	88
leave and will have an opportunity to provide the Division with information. The	89
leave before or after they have used their earned paid time off.	95
ment. No, the state FAMLI benefit runs concurrently with the federal FMLA. Also, ng they have been with the same employer.	96
pay their portion of the health insurance premium while an employee is on leave. It ortion of their own health insurance while they are on leave. There will be more enacted.	100
1/2024 start date the employee will have a total of 12 weeks of FAMLI benefits nd are not per incident.	102
	103
ents and are working to build a tech solution that can accommodate this. Through so offering payroll services we understand this need and will continue to meet with and best practices and needs. We also anticipate being able to offer early user see let us know if you would like to be in one of our test groups.	6
ate's average weekly wage earned by the employee. People earning less money will formation see C.R.S. 8-13.3-506. The benefit amount estimate is also currently site.	45
ocumentation of need before the benefit is approved by the FAMLI Division. e period may be up to 12 weeks. For people experiencing pregnancy and childbirth r a total of 16 weeks. The FAMLI benefit can only be taken once a year across a se paternity leave on February 11th, 2024 for the full 12 weeks, they would not be ry 11th, 2025.	62
ledical Leave Act (FMLA). This means employees will not be covered under either beeks for military exigency under federal law). For more information about the ds as an employer, you may want to consult an attorney specializing in human byond.	64
	70
arents of any gender. Each parent must qualify for FAMLI leave on their own	71
fits.	72
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	86
	92
al insurance pool. The money is not solely reserved for an individual like a health ate.	98
name manner and form a self employed person would. This would mean the lible for self reporting their wage data and remitting a quarterly premium into the	1
als have the option to opt out or choose not to participate in the program. The the employee-portion of the FAMLI deduction: benefit, and therefore will not see any FAMLI-related wage deductions on their pay er their employees' full portion of the contribution as an added work perk, the	15
the employee- benefit, and the er their employ eady have a p	portion of the FAMLI deduction: herefore will not see any FAMLI-related wage deductions on their pay

	Question	Response	Question Number
Local Gov		There is not a deadline for local governments to elect coverage. They may do so at the beginning of their annual budgetary cycle. For more information on the proposed local government rules see the Colorado register or the FAMLI website at: https://famli.colorado.gov/proposed/adopted-rules	17
Local Gov		No, the local government employees may choose to participate on their own as individual workers if the local government opts out, but they are not required to do so.	19
Local Gov	Can a local government elect to not participate in this program? What if a local government employee does want to participate in the program?	Yes, local governments may choose to opt out of the program. Local government employees may self-elect coverage in the same manner and form a self employed person would. This would mean the individual employee creates their own account and is responsible for self reporting their wage data and remitting a quarterly premium into the system.	32
Local Gov	For schools, will these deductions be PERA exempt? Meaning, will these deductions reduce the salary that the PERA rate calculates on?	In progress - visit famili.colorado.gov for more.	46
Local Gov	Are these deductions pre or post PERA contributions?	In progress - visit famili.colorado.gov for more.	47
Local Gov		No, local government is not required to participate or offer FAMLI benefits, although they are welcome to do so. Local governments must formally opt out of the program and notify the Division on the decision to avoid a premium liability.	49
Local Gov	Or, are schools considered local governments and exempt?	Public School districts are considered units of local government. Neither local governments including school districts are automatically exempt from the FAMLI program, but they may formally vote to opt out of the program. See 7 CCR 1107-2 for more information.	52
Local Gov		Please see See 7 CCR 1107-2 for more information. The proposed rules were published in the Colorado register December 10, 2021 and the Division will host a formal rulemaking hearing January 6th 2022 at 5 PM. A RSVP form and more information can be found on the FAMLI website.	53
Local Gov	Under the definition of local government, is a public school district considered under that definition?	Yes, public school districts (K-8) are considered to be a unit of local government under the proposed local government rules.	55
Local Gov	If a local government wishes to opt out, does the public vote need to be included on a ballot and go through the election process?	Neither. The governing body (city council, school board etc.) must take a vote.	63
Misc	Can I receive CPE credit for this course?	There is not CPE credit at this time	33
Misc	Why does Colorado continue to enact job killing policy?	In progress - visit famti.colorado.gov for more.	9
Premiums		The FAMLI website is a resource for further information and guidance. You may also email specific questions or request a presentation from the Division.	2
Premiums		The FAMLI program is an statewide insurance program where both employees and employers pay a fee that will provide wage replacement directly to employees when they have a documented need to take leave for a qualifying reason.	4
Premiums	Our company is headquartered in Wyoming, but we do have an office in Colorado. Will this affect us?	Yes. Similar to the mechanism under unemployment insurance, where an employee is "localized" to the State of Colorado and their out of state employer would pay into Colorado's Unemployment Insurance, the FAMLI program follows the same model. This best practice has also been adopted by other states with paid family medical leave programs.	5
Premiums	What size employers does FAMLI apply to?	Employers of all sizes including self employed individuals are welcome to participate. Employers sized 2-9 will be required to only remit employee premiums and allow employees to take leave when needed. Employers 10 and above will be required to remit both an employee and an employer share of the premium and allow employees to take leave when needed.	8
Premiums	Our company has 10 employees. Does this affect our business?	Yes, all Colorado businesses of 2 and more employees will be impacted by FAMLI. Businesses with 10 or more employees will be required to pay a quarterly premium equal to 0.9% of each employee's wage into the FAMLI fund, beginning 1 January 2023, with the first payment due 1 April 2023. The employer may choose to split the premium cost 50/50 with the employee, and is permitted to deduct half of the premium cost (0.45%) from the employee's wages, but they must submit the full amount (0.9%) to the Division.	10
Premiums		Yes, All Colorado businesses of 2 or more employees are required to comply with FAMILI by law. Employers of 2-9 people are not required to pay an employer premium. Employers with 2-9 employees will be required to submit to the Division the employee share of the premium, which is equal to 0.45% of the employee's qualifying wages.	11
Premiums		Yes, this will apply to all employers. Employers will be required to submit wage data (from which we calculate the premium amount) and pay a premium quarterly to the Division. Only local governments have the ability to opt out of FAMLI coverage after a public vote.	12
Premiums	Does this apply to owner/employees?	Sole proprietors may choose to opt into the program but they are not required by law to do so.	13
Premiums	Is this gross wages or adjusted gross, after cafeteria deductions?	In progress - visit famili colorado gov for more.	18
Premiums	We are an employer who's home base is out of state and have 1 employee in CO, would we be responsible for the ER portion of the contributions?	Yes, depending on the size of the company. See 7 CCR 1107-1 (1.5.6 C) for further clarification.	21
Premiums	Can you explain the 9 or fewer employee requirements?	In progress - visit famli.colorado.gov for more.	22
Premiums	The intention of the program is great, the execution and operation of it is more of a challenge for the increasing costs of small businesses (and over 9 employees is still a small business and creates a lot of additional cost). Also, it's not really a talent retention or attraction for small businesses if everyone is mandated to do it. It actually levels the playing		23
Premiums	Will a person living in Colorado working remotely for a company in a different state still be subject to this "tax" similar to Colorado state tax, or is this only for Colorado employers with Colorado employees?	TBD response	26
Premiums	How will these funds be collected?	Employers need to submit to the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment both their share (if required) and their employee's share of the premium through an online system at the end of each quarter. These quarterly filings should be similar to how most companies submit their unemployment insurance today.	27

	Question	Response	Question Number
Premiums	Do we have to setup online account to make the payment? when can we start setting up the account?	There will be a need to register. We'll begin supporting setting these up in Q4 2022	28
Premiums	SSA announced the 2022 social security wage base as \$147,000 can you please correct the example with the 2022 information?	Yes, we will make this correction on the powerpoint. Thank you for the feedback.	29
Premiums	For a person making a tipped minimum wage of \$9.30 an hour plus tips, what wage is the amount figured?	The FAMLI rules were carefully crafted as to not redefine the definition of wages for Colorado employers and employees. Tips reported by the employee to the employer have been and remain part of the wages calculations for workers.	30
Premiums	Does this apply to all types of wages, including bonuses?	Yes. There are a few exemptions, (see 7 CCR 1107-1 (1.5.4)). Bonuses are normally seen and counted as wages in Colorado. The FAMLI rules were carefully crafted as to not redefine the definition of wages for Colorado employers and employees.	31
Premiums	Why does the calculator use wages in excess of the social security wage base in the calculation of premium? I put in \$160,000 and got an answer of annual contribution \$720.20. The answer should be \$661.50 = \$147,000 X .0046.	Premiums are paid on wages up to the Federal Social Security Wage Cap. The 2020 Legislative Blue Book estimates a higher amount in 2023 which may be closer to \$161,700. The calculator was built with this in mind, and caps out after that amount or higher is entered at \$727.48.	34
Premiums	Is this paid with the quarterly unemployment taxes?	Yes, the timing mirrors UI with premiums being paid quarterly. We are working to make the process as simple and familiar as possible for employers.	36
Premiums	Are churches exempt from paying the employer portion of the tax?	No, Churches are included in the FAMLI program.	39
Premiums	Is there a cap \$\$ amount for the account, after a period of time?	No, FAMLI is a social insurance program with people working in Colorado contributing to the insurance pool.	40
Premiums	Why isn't this being taken out in payroll taxes like social security and unemployment?	The FAMLI program is an enterprise under Colorado law and the premium is a fee.	43
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Premiums	Does the FAMLI deduction apply to employees who work in another state?	Yes, If you live or work in Colorado then FAMLI applies to you.	50
Premiums	Are 1099 employees included?	Yes. Most Colorado employees become eligible to take paid leave after they have earned at least \$2,500 in wages within the State within the last 4 calendar quarters. Self Employed Workers (1099 or Contract Workers) may also be eligible if they have opted into coverage and live and work in Colorado.	51
Premiums	Is there a situation when a company can opt out of PFML?	Only local government employees and self employee individuals have the option to opt out of the program. The following circumstances may exempt employees from paying the employee-portion of the FAMLI deduction: Employees of the federal government cannot access the state benefit, and therefore will not see any FAMLI-related wage deductions on their pay stubs. If an individual works for an employer who has chosen to cover their employees' full portion of the contribution as an added work perk, the employee will not see any FAMLI-related wage deductions. Employers may apply to opt out of the program only if they already have a privately funded paid family leave program in place that offers benefits comparable to FAMLI. Employees for those employers also won't see any FAMLI-related wage deductions, but may see other deductions depending on how the employer funds its private program.	54
Premiums	Ministers are not covered by social security, will the minister be subject to FAMLI?	FAMLI is a state facilitated program and not connected to social security. There is no exemption for clergy or specific job categories.	59
Premiums	So this is a mandatory law for ALL employees who work for an employer that has 2-9 or 10 or more employees MUST contribute?	Yes.	61
Premiums	Will this be taken directly out of their paycheck with employer match just like SS or MCR?	Yes, this will look similar as a mechanism.	73
Premiums	Does this apply to all types of wages, including bonuses?	Repeat question see answers to Q 31	75
Premiums	What happens to the money collected if not used by the employee and they are no longer employed with the company?	The premium amount paid stays in the FAMLI fund, and the benefit eligibility follows the employee as a portable benefit. Eligibility is not dependent on or limited by their affiliation to a business.	77
Premiums	We are a NonProfit and have two employees. By law, we are not required to pay UI - you indicated that we have to pay FAMLI if we pay UI. We don't pay UI so do we have to pay FAMLI?	Yes, all businesses including non profits sized 2-9, will be required to comply with the FAMLI program and remit premiums on behalf of employees.	80
Premiums	Will this be a separate filing or right on with the unemployment taxes?	In progress - visit famili colorado gov for more.	84
	We are a virtual company and currently only have 1 employee living in colorado. We have		
Premiums	19 employees in total across the United States. Are we still considered a part of this since we only have 1 employee in Colorado?	Yes. See 7 CCR 1107-1 (1.5.6) for more information.	85
Premiums	This seems to work similar to a UI fund - the more the employee uses it, the less the fund is, etc but is there an additional tax that will be applied like UI taxes in addition to the FAMLI contributions? Eg. A FAMLI employer contribution plus a FAMLI tax.	No. The premium is the only fee paid into the fund by either the employer or employee. There is not an additional cost to either employer or employee when a worker accesses leave.	87
Premiums	Tracy mentioned that if you pay CO unemployment tax for that employee then you are required to pay into the FAMLI. What if you pay unemployment tax to another state for the employee who doesn't work in CO, are you required to pay FAMLI for that employee since he doesn't live or work in CO?	same as question 101.	90
Premiums	Is it safe to assume that benefit is based on gross wages as adjusted by any pre-tax 401K contributions?	In progress - visit <u>famili.colorado.gov</u> for more.	91
Premiums	We have an employee who knows they are moving out of state at some point in 2023 (military family), do they still have to pay their employee portion?	Yes	93
Premiums	If an employee is no longer working, say retires, what happens to those monies they paid in and did not use?	FAMLI is a social insurance program and the money stays in the fund.	94
Premiums	is this tax deductible	No	97
Premiums	What will the frequency of filings look like?	Quarterly	99
Premiums	Lydia mentioned that if you pay CO unemployment tax for that employee then you are required to pay into the FAMIL. What if you pay unemployment tax to another state for the employee who doesn't work in CO, are you required to pay FAMLI for that employee since he doesn't live or work in CO?	In progress - visit famili colorado.gov for more.	101

	Question	Response	Question Number
Private Plan	If a small business sets up a family medical leave plan that is consistent with this new proposition 118. Do we still have to participate in this FAMLI??	The ballot allows for both private plans and self insurance. Once a plan has been approved as being equal to or greater than the FAMLI program, the company receives an exemption and would not be required to pay into the state program as long as their insurance continues to meet the requirements.	3
Private Plan	Is it the employer who opts out with self insurance or third party insurance or is it the employee who opts out? The first question said it was an employee who opted out.	The employer must be the one to opt out, and may do so after the private plan application and exemption has been approved by the Division.	56
Private Plan	What's a qualified plan, short term disability?	Not exactly. A qualified private plan must convey the same or greater than level of benefits for the employee as the FAMLI leave program would, have the same length of time, rate of pay to the employee, and at the same or lesser cost to the employee.	68
			104